



Head Quarters 114th N.Y. Vols.

Near Summit-Point-Va. April 13th 1865

Dear Brother

Your letter of the 5th inst was rec^d the 9th and this is the first good opportunity that I have had to answer it. We started on an expedition up the Valley, but did not go far, only to Keenstown where we stayed two days, and then moved back ^{to Milltown} about a mile and a half from above Winchester, where we stayed two days longer. There we got orders from Gen Hancock that all boots & overcoats and dress coats should be burnt at the head of each company street at retreat, and no enlisted man would be allowed to have them in his possession. That was ~~for~~ because our Regt & the 116th yelled boots at him as we passed his Hd. Qrs. in Winchester. We had an order to send our boots to the rear before we left camp Sheridan, I did not have any

so it did not effect me at all. I have got an
overcoat, but I hid it when we had the inspection
so I keep it. We left Milltown day before yesterday
the 11th. in an awful rain storm. it rained most all day and
was very bad travelling. and arrived here just after dark
it being a distance of about 22 miles. I did not
walk only part of the way. I had my knapsack carried
with my things. but I was so lame that I could not keep
up. I do not get any better of the rheumatism.
have been a great deal worse since we left
Camp Sheridan. the doctor was a going to send me to
the rear when we left there. but I preferred
going along. as I ~~did not~~ would not have any
gun to carry. or knapsack, and thought I could keep
along. but I don't think we will have any more march
to do. I hope not. I think the Confederacy has about
played out. any how. if it is not it will mighty soon
will I have so more news to write. I wrote to
mother while we was at Milltown. Give my
love to all. and write soon.

Yours Truly

John T. Brand